

Northern Iowa Therapy Associates, LLC is a Medicare/Medicaid Certified and Surveyed Rehabilitation Agency that provides in home Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Speech Therapy for Adults and Special Needs Children throughout NE Iowa's rural communities. We also provide adult and pediatric therapy at our clinic in Waverly.

We continue to go to meeting where Medicaid representatives present that after Jan 1, 2016, Medicaid benefits will not change with the transition of Medicaid to Managed Care Organizations.

We find this NOT to be the case and do expect benefits to change, especially for our pediatric patients.

Examples of this are as follows:

We already get denials from United Health Care (one of the 4 assigned Managed Care Organizations replacing Medicaid) because according to the United provider manual, United will not pay for the treatment of 'development delay' in children. This diagnosis is one of the most common diagnosis in our pediatric clinic. United has many plans that will only pay for therapy of children RELATED TO ILLNESS, INJURY, OR STROKE. Again, most of our pediatric patients have developmental delays not related to trauma/injury or stroke. We expect this to cause denials for care that was previously covered by Medicaid.

We have been told that starting Jan 1 we will have to pre-authorize visits for all children therapy visits. We have also been told we will have to pre-authorize visits even if the MCO is the secondary insurance and not the primary insurance.

This pre-authorization requirement is very concerning to us. Our staff will have to learn 4 separate MCOs pre-authorization systems, each with their own nuances to get approval to provided needed therapy on children. Our experience is this will cause delays and denials of recommended care that was previously covered by Medicaid.

When calling the MCOs, they can not confirm to us how/if therapy for children will need to be authorized. They seem to not know.

Also, United Healthcare MCO has only just now confirmed to us (5 weeks away from the Jan 1 2016 implementation date) that they will recognize Northern Iowa Therapy Associates, LLC as an institutional provider. We have been unable to consider signing a contract with United before this because United could NOT confirm if Northern Iowa Therapy Associates, LLC was an institutional provider or a group practice provider with different contracts and credential requirements.

Also, Northern Iowa Therapy Associates, LLC along with all other Iowa providers are being asked to sign contracts with MCOs without the MCOs providing fee schedules showing what the MCOs will pay providers 6 months after the implementation date of Jan 1 2016. We are told that the MCOs will negotiate will providers later what fee schedules will be. We agree with the Iowa Hospitals that it is unwise to sign any contract where the insurance company will not reveal to you what their fee schedule is.

Again, we encourage everyone to sign the petition below to delay the implementation to Iowa Medicaid to Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) currently scheduled to start Jan. 1 2016.

Thank You,

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